

By: Gutierrez

S.B. No. 1688

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the jurisdiction of the County Court at Law of Reeves County.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Sections 25.1972(a) and (b), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) In addition to the jurisdiction provided by Section 25.0003 and other law, and except as limited by Subsection (b), a county court at law in Reeves County has:

(1) concurrent jurisdiction with the district court:

(A) in disputes ancillary to probate, eminent domain, condemnation, or landlord and tenant matters relating to the adjudication and determination of land titles and trusts, whether testamentary, inter vivos, constructive, resulting, or any other class or type of trust, regardless of the amount in controversy or the remedy sought;

(B) over civil forfeitures, including surety bond forfeitures without minimum or maximum limitation as to the amount in controversy or remedy sought;

(C) in all actions by or against a personal representative, in all actions involving an inter vivos trust, in all actions involving a charitable trust, and in all actions involving a testamentary trust, whether the matter is appertaining to or incident to an estate;

1 (D) in proceedings under Title 3, Family Code;
2 and

3 (E) in family law cases and proceedings [~~any~~
4 ~~proceeding involving an order relating to a child in the possession~~
5 ~~or custody of the Department of Family and Protective Services or~~
6 ~~for whom the court has appointed a temporary or permanent managing~~
7 ~~conservator~~];

8 (2) jurisdiction in mental health matters, original or
9 appellate, provided by law for constitutional county courts,
10 statutory county courts, or district courts with mental health
11 jurisdiction, including proceedings under:

12 (A) Chapter 462, Health and Safety Code; and

13 (B) Subtitles C and D, Title 7, Health and Safety
14 Code;

15 (3) jurisdiction over the collection and management of
16 estates of minors, persons with a mental illness or intellectual
17 disability, and deceased persons; and

18 (4) jurisdiction in all cases assigned, transferred,
19 or heard under Sections 74.054, 74.059, and 74.094.

20 (b) A county court at law does not have jurisdiction of:

21 (1) felony cases, except as otherwise provided by law;

22 (2) misdemeanors involving official misconduct unless
23 assigned under Sections 74.054 and 74.059; or

24 (3) contested elections [~~or~~

25 [~~(4) except as provided by Subsections (a)(1)(D) and~~
26 ~~(E), family law cases~~].

27 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

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1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.